

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Original) A method of magnetic resonance imaging comprising the steps of:

a) providing a magnetic field within an imaging volume,

b) moving a subject continuously along a predetermined path,

c) defining a sub-volume of the imaging volume, together with the subject, the sub-volume being selected such that the time of movement of the sub-volume within the imaging volume is sufficient for magnetic resonance image data acquisition with a predefined resolution,

d) performing a step of magnetic resonance image data acquisition for the sub-volume,

e) defining a subsequent sub-volume which neighbours the sub-volume on the predetermined path to perform a subsequent step of magnetic resonance image data acquisition for the subsequent sub-volume.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, whereby a three-dimensional imaging method is used for the step of magnetic resonance image data acquisition for the sub-volume.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, whereby a multislice imaging method is used for the step of magnetic resonance image data acquisition for the sub-volume, the sub-volume containing a stack of two dimensional slices along the predetermined path.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 the sub-volume having an extension along the predetermined path between 3 and 7 cm.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, the speed of movement being between ~~0,5~~ 0,5 and 5 mm per second.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, whereby the magnetic resonance image data acquisition is performed by means of a parallel imaging technique.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 whereby a SENSE-type parallel imaging technique is used.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, the magnetic resonance image data acquisition being cyclically repeated, whereby one repetition is performed for each one of the sub-volumes.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, the sub-volumes having a first extension along the predetermined path, the imaging volume having a second extension along the predetermined path, the second extension being at least twice the first extension.

10. (Previously presented) A computer readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system for magnetic resonance imaging comprising the steps of:

- defining a sub-volume of an imaging volume provided by a magnetic field, continuously moving a sub-volume along a predetermined path together with a subject, the sub-volume being selected such that the time of movement of the sub-volume within the imaging volume is sufficient for magnetic resonance image data acquisition with a preferred resolution,

- defining a subsequent sub-volume which neighbours the sub-volume on the predetermined path to perform a subsequent step of magnetic resonance image data acquisition.

11. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 10, the program means being adapted to be employed for a parallel imaging technique.

12. (Currently amended) A magnetic resonance imaging device comprising:

[[[-]] means for providing a magnet system configured to generate a magnetic field within an imaging volume[[],,];

[[[-]] means for a subject support configured for moving a subject continuously along a predetermined path[[],,] through the imaging volume; and

[[[-]] a control unit configured for generating of control signals for magnetic resonance image data acquisition within a sub-volume (j=5, j=6) of the imaging volume, the sub-volume being moved along the predetermined path together along with the subject, the sub-volume being selected such that the time of movement of the sub-volume within the imaging volume is sufficient for magnetic resonance image data acquisition with a predefined resolution and for subsequent magnetic resonance image data acquisition within a subsequent sub-volume which neighbours the sub-volume on the predetermined path.

13. (Currently amended) The magnetic resonance imaging device of claim 12, the means for moving subject support being adapted configured to move the subject with a speed of [[0..5]] 0.5 to 5 mm per second.

14. (Currently amended) The magnetic resonance imaging device of claim 12 further comprising means for performing a parallel imaging technique based on simultaneous reception through multiple receive channels.

15. (Currently amended) The magnetic resonance imaging device of claim 12, the control unit being adapted configured to perform cyclic repetitions of the magnetic resonance image data acquisition.

16. (Currently Amended) The magnetic resonance imaging device of claim 12, the sub-volumes having a first extension length along the predetermined path and the imaging volume having a second extension length along the predetermined path, the second extension length being at least twice the first extension length.

17. (Currently Amended) The magnetic resonance imaging device of claim 12, the predetermined path being a straight line and the ~~means for providing a magnetic field magnet system~~ comprising a cylindrical magnet.

18. (Currently Amended) The magnetic resonance imaging device of claim 12, the predetermined path being curved and the ~~means for providing a magnetic field magnet system~~ comprising an open magnetic resonance system.

19. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
correcting the acquired magnetic resonance image data for zero order phase error accumulated due to the continuous moving.

20. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
processing the acquired magnetic resonance image data to form an image of a subject section to be imaged; and
visualizing the image of the subject section.